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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/664,500	09/19/2003	Mark Yalovsky	60001.0382US01/MS302845.1	1758

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EXAMINER
NGUYEN, MAIKHANH

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2176	

DATE MAILED: 11/30/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>11 September 2006</u>.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-23</u> is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) <u>18-20</u> is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-17 and 21-23</u> is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1.   This action is responsive to communications: Amendment filed 09/11/2006 to the

original application filed 09/19/2003.

Claims 1-17 and 21-23 are presented for examination. Claims 18-20 are withdrawn from

consideration. Claims 21-23 have been added. Claims 1 and 12 have been amended. Claims

1, 12, and 21 are independent claims.

Applicant is required to cancel non-elected claims 18-20 in the next response to this office

action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

*(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in
section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are
such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person
having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the
manner in which the invention was made.*

Claim 1-17 and 21-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Higashiyama et al. (US 2002/0032705) in view of **Robinson** (US 5633957, issued

05/27/1997).

As to claim 1:

Higashiyama teaches a computer-implemented method for inserting input into an electronic

document page *(e.g., placing an insertion point in an electronic document in an electronic*

system for creating and editing an electronic document ... then formatting is performed to

place the insertion point in the electronic document) [see the Abstract and the discussion

beginning at ¶0009] comprising the steps of:

placing a pointer on the electronic document page *(e.g., placing an insertion point*

in an electronic document) [see Abstract and the discussion beginning at ¶¶0009

and 0047];

in response to placing the pointer on the electronic document page, scanning the

electronic document page for an existing object *(e.g., the location that the user is*

clicking on with a cursor is determined. The most likely position that the user wants

to place the insertion point and text and object formatting attributes are determined

based on the context information regarding the cursor location. Any necessary

formatting adjustments are made in the electronic document to place the insertion

point at the cursor location) [see Abstract and the discussion beginning at ¶ 0024];

if an existing object is detected in the scanning step:

selecting a content-based guideline of the existing object that is adjacent to the

pointer, *(e.g., a rule is selected ...the cursor presentation is changed to match*

the selected rule ... the object next to which the cursor is positioned) [see the

discussion beginning at ¶0089], the plurality of content-based guidelines

comprising vertical lines *(e.g., vertical lines)* and horizontal lines *(e.g.,*

horizontal position of the cursor on the line), the vertical lines being attached

to content features of existing object and the horizontal lines being aligned to

text comprising the exist object *(see the discussion beginning at ¶ 0047); and*

aligning the pointer to the content-based guideline for inserting the input *(e.g.,*

after a rule is selected at step 215, the method 200 proceeds to step 220 and the

cursor presentation is changed to match the selected rule. Typically, the cursor

presentation will be an icon indicating the anticipated location of the insertion

point should the user double-click the mouse button while the cursor is at its

current location. In an exemplary embodiment, the cursor may be a left

alignment icon indicating the insertion point will be left aligned, a center

alignment icon indicating the insertion point will be center aligned, a right

alignment icon indicating the insertion point will be right aligned, an indent

icon indicating that the insertion point will be indented, and a text-wrapping

icon indicating the type of text wrapping which will be applied to the object next

to which the cursor is positioned Thus, a selected rule that corresponds to

formatting steps that left align the insertion point will cause a left align cursor

to be displayed) [see the discussion beginning at ¶0089].

Higashiyama teaches selecting a content-based guideline of the existing object that is adjacent to the pointer, but does not specifically teach the content-based guideline being selected from a plurality of content-based guidelines by applying rules to determine which one of the plurality of content-guidelines is dominant.

Robinson teach the content-based guideline being selected from a plurality of content-based guidelines by applying rules to determine which one of the plurality of content-guidelines is dominant *(e.g., when the invention is used to find the positional guidelines of words, it must be noted that this positional guideline will not necessarily be the positional guideline of every character in the word, but will instead be the "average" positional guideline for the entire word, which can be used for alignment of the word with other words. Thus in FIG. 10 it can be seen all the individual character baselines in the word "plop" are either above or below the baseline of the entire word. If, however, the invention is used to determine the positional guideline of individual characters, then each character would be positioned relative to the other characters in the word using their individual positional guidelines--thus creating a single guideline for the entire word; col. 7, line 35-col. 10, line 67).*

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Robinson with Higashiyama because Robinson's teaching would have allowed placing an insertion point in an electronic document in an electronic system for creating and editing the electronic document.

As to claim 2:

Higashiyama teaches the input comprises a document object *(e.g., objects in a document;* *¶0008).*

As to claim 3:

Higashiyama teaches the content-based guideline is an existing content-based guideline, and wherein the input document object comprises content, and wherein the method further comprises the step of identifying an input content-based guideline of the input document object *(e.g., allows a user to place an insertion point at various points within an electronic document without having to manually add spaces, tabs or carriage returns to the document. Generally described, the location that the user is clicking on with a cursor is determined. The most likely position that the user wants to place the insertion point and text and object formatting attributes are determined based on the context information regarding the cursor location. Any necessary formatting adjustments are made in the electronic document to place the insertion point at the cursor location) [see the discussion beginning at ¶0009],* and wherein the aligning step comprises positioning the content of the

input document object on the page so that the input content-based guideline is aligned to

the existing content-based guideline *(e.g., the cursor may be a left alignment icon*

indicating the insertion point will be left aligned, a center alignment icon indicating the

insertion point will be center aligned, a right alignment icon indicating the insertion point

will be right aligned, an indent icon indicating that the insertion point will be indented, and

a text-wrapping icon indicating the type of text wrapping which will be applied to the

object next to which the cursor is positioned Thus, a selected rule that corresponds to

formatting steps that left align the insertion point will cause a left align cursor to be

displayed) [see the discussion beginning at ¶0089].

As to claim 4:

Higashiyama teaches the input document object comprises a graphic *(e.g., graphical*

objects; see ¶¶ 0023 and 0025)

As to claim 5:

Higashiyama teaches the input document further comprises textual content *(e.g., text; see*

¶¶ 0024, 0025, and 0048).

As to claim 6:

Higashiyama teaches the input comprises text *(e.g., text; see ¶¶ 0024, 0025, and 0048).*

As to claim 7:

Higashiyama teaches the existing object comprises text and content-based guideline is horizontally aligned with the text *(e.g., the collection of context information may comprise examining the alignment of the line over which the cursor is positioned, examining whether there is text on the line over which the cursor is positioned, examining whether tab stops exist on the line over which the cursor is positioned, determining the horizontal position of the cursor on the line) [see the discussion beginning at ¶0052].*

As to claim 8:

Higashiyama teaches the existing object comprises text and the content-based guideline is a vertical guideline that is aligned to a format feature of the text *(e.g., the collection of context information may comprise examining the alignment of the line over which the cursor is positioned, examining whether there is text on the line over which the cursor is positioned...determining the vertical position of the cursor in the document) [see the discussion beginning at ¶0052].*

As to claim 9:

Higashiyama teaches the existing object comprises text *(e.g., text; see ¶¶ 0024, 0025, and 0048)* and the content-based guideline is aligned to a reflow bar of the existing object *(e.g., the cursor may be a left alignment icon indicating the insertion point will be left aligned, a*

center alignment icon indicating the insertion point will be center aligned, a right

alignment icon indicating the insertion point will be right aligned, an indent icon

indicating that the insertion point will be indented, and a text-wrapping icon indicating the

type of text wrapping which will be applied to the object next to which the cursor is

positioned Thus, a selected rule that corresponds to formatting steps that left align the

insertion point will cause a left align cursor to be displayed) [see the discussion beginning

at ¶0089].

As to claim 10:

Higashiyama teaches if no existing object is detected in the scanning step, inserting input

at the placement of the pointer *(e.g., an appropriate cursor is displayed... The cursor is*

typically used to provide the user with an indication of the placement of the insertion

point should the user choose to enter an insertion point with the cursor in its current

location. Thus, as the cursor is moved around the screen, the cursor will change based

upon the changing context information) [see the discussion beginning at ¶0096].

As to claim 11:

Higashiyama teaches the existing object comprises existing text the input comprises input

text *(e.g., the user wants to place the insertion point and text and object formatting*

attributes are determined based on the context information regarding the cursor

location) [see the discussion beginning at ¶0009]; the content-based guideline is aligned

with a feature of the existing text; and the aligning step further comprises aligning the

input text to the content-based guideline *(e.g., the cursor may be a left alignment icon indicating the insertion point will be left aligned, a center alignment icon indicating the insertion point will be center aligned, a right alignment icon indicating the insertion point will be right aligned, an indent icon indicating that the insertion point will be indented, and a text-wrapping icon indicating the type of text wrapping which will be applied to the object next to which the cursor is positioned Thus, a selected rule that corresponds to formatting steps that left align the insertion point will cause a left align cursor to be displayed) [see the discussion beginning at ¶0089].*

As to claim 12:

It is directed to a computer-readable storage device for implementing the method of claim 1, and is similarly rejected under the same rationale.

As to claim 13:

Higashiyama teaches selecting the content guideline of the dominant existing object that is closest on the electronic page to the pointer *(e.g., collecting context information is typically based on cursor position and comprises determining which paragraph the cursor is over. then the closest text that is immediately above the cursor position is examined and properties, or attributes, of that text are examined) [see the Placing an Insertion Point in a Document discussion beginning at ¶ 0047].*

As to claim 14:

Higashiyama teaches determining a dominant existing object on the basis of position on

the electronic page *(e.g., determining which paragraph the cursor is over. ... If the cursor*

is over existing text, then there are properties, or attributes, of the existing text that are

examined. These properties include, but are not limited to, tab stops, section level

properties (a section is typically defined by section breaks), and paragraph properties (a

paragraph is text between two paragraph marks). If the cursor is over no existing text,

then the closest text that is immediately above the cursor position is examined and

properties, or attributes, of that text are examined) [see the Placing an Insertion Point in

a Document discussion beginning at ¶ 0047].

As to claim 15:

Higashiyama teaches determining that the existing object that is closest to the left side of

the electronic page is the dominant existing object *(e.g., a selected rule that corresponds to*

formatting steps that left align the insertion point will cause a left align cursor to be

displayed) [see the discussion beginning at ¶0089].

As to claim 16:

Higashiyama teaches determining that the existing object that is closest to the top side of

the electronic page is the dominant existing object *(e.g., after a rule is selected at step 215,*

the method 200 proceeds to step 220 and the cursor presentation is changed to match the

selected rule. Typically, the cursor presentation will be an icon indicating the anticipated

location of the insertion point should the user double-click the mouse button while the

cursor is at its current location. In an exemplary embodiment, the cursor may be a left

alignment icon indicating the insertion point will be left aligned, a center alignment icon

indicating the insertion point will be center aligned, a right alignment icon indicating the

insertion point will be right aligned, an indent icon indicating that the insertion point will

be indented, and a text-wrapping icon indicating the type of text wrapping which will be

applied to the object next to which the cursor is positioned Thus, a selected rule that

corresponds to formatting steps that left align the insertion point will cause a left align

cursor to be displayed) [see the discussion beginning at ¶0089].

As to claim 17:

Higashiyama teaches identifying the existing object that is closest to the top left corner of

the electronic page *(e.g., a selected rule that corresponds to formatting steps that left align*

the insertion point will cause a left align cursor to be displayed) [see the discussion

beginning at ¶0089].

As to claim 21:

It is directed to a system for performing the method of claim 1, and is similarly rejected

under the same rationale.

As to claim 22:

Higashiyama teaches the processing unit being operative to align before text has been

received for the input *(see ¶¶ 0025, 0100, 0115)*.

As to claim 22:

Higashiyama teaches the processing unit being operative to align after text has been

received for the input *[see the discussion beginning at ¶ 0047]*.

Response to Arguments

3.   Applicant's arguments filed 09/11/2006 have been fully considered but they are not

persuasive.

Applicant argues in substance that *Higashiyama does not teach a content-based guideline*

selected from a plurality of content-based guidelines by applying rules to determine

which one of the plurality of content-guidelines is dominant [Remarks, page 11].

In response, the Examiner respectfully submits that Applicant's arguments are

substantially directed to the amended subject matter. The amended subject matter is

addressed above with respect to the discussion of independent claims 1, 12, and 21.

Conclusion

4.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's

disclosure.

- Gough et al.   US Pat. No. 5,559,942   Issued: Sep. 24, 1996

- Forcier   US Pat. No. 5,590,257   Issued: Dec. 31, 1996

- Robinson   US Pat. No. 5,633,957   Issued: May 27, 1997

- Gipson   US Pat. No. 5,778,402   Issued: Jul. 77, 1998

- Buxton et al.   US Pat. No. 5,798,752   Issued: Aug. 25, 1998

- Michelman et al.   US Pat. No. 6,487,567   Issued: Nov. 26, 2002

- DeStefano   US Pat. No. 6,654,035   Issued: Nov. 25, 2003

- Pratley et al.   US Pat. No. 6,678,865   Issued: Jan. 13, 2004

- Keely et al.   US Pub. No. 2002/0097270 A1   Pub. Date: Jul 25, 2002

- Antonie et al., "*Text Document Categorization by Term Association,*" IEEE,

  December 2002, pp. 19-26.

5.   Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this

Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a).

Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the

shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the

advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than

SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Contact information

6.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Maikhanh Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-

4093. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 9:00am – 5:30

pm. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Heather Herndon can be reached at (571) 272-4136.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is

assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent

Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published

applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status

information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For

more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you

have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business

Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Any response to this action should be mailed to:
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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Maikhanh Nguyen

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